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Mr. John Kaplan
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Dear John:

I am looking forward very much to hearing your ideas on problems of evidence and inference in the law. I agree with you that the Lerner book on evidence, including the article by Hart and McNaughton, is surprisingly lacking in any conceptual framework; I hope this will be a challenge to you. I have been a fan of Raiffa for many years, and I would appreciate very much your sending me copies of any letters you might send him on the subject. In fact, if you would urge him to do likewise a three-way correspondence might be very fruitful.

By way of references, a pioneering little book by I. J. Good, Probability and the Weighing of Evidence (Hafner, New York, 1950), remains one of the most suggestive works on Bayesian inference, and you may find it easier going than the Raiffa-Schlaifer book. An important recent article is "On the Foundations of Statistical Inference," Allan Birnbaum, Journal of the American Statistical Association, June 1962 (and discussion following). I have been giving a lot of thought recently to the question of the limitations of the Bayesian approach as an analysis of the problem of inference in non-statistical context. I won't try to summarize this for you now, but I shall be setting some of these ideas down, I hope, in the late fall. It might be worth thinking of a joint article on these matters, as applied to the law, at some later point (which would not, of course, interfere with your writing your own pieces for the law journals).

Our family spent a very enjoyable week in San Francisco recently, where we had the opportunity of visiting the Coles. Mary still

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remembers your baby with longing; it was very thoughtful of you to send her a picture. We all send our love.

Yours,

Daniel Ellisberg
Economics Department